

**Memorandum of the Meeting
Regular Study Session
Twenty-Sixth Town Council of Highland
Monday, October 20, 2008**

The regular study session of the Twenty-Sixth Town Council of the Town of Highland was convened at the regular place, the Highland Municipal, 3333 Ridge Road, Highland, Indiana, in the plenary meeting room on Monday, October 20, 2008 at the standing time of 7:00 o'clock p.m.

Roll Call: Dan Vassar, Mark A. Herak, Brian Novak, Konnie Kuiper and Bernie Zemen were present. The Clerk-Treasurer Michael W. Griffin was present to memorialize the proceedings. A quorum was attained.

Also present: Karen Ziants and Laurel Roach of the Community Events Commission; and Ed Dabrowski of the Park and Recreation Board were also present.

General Substance of Matters Discussed

1. The Town Council discussed the proposed rate increase for Solid Waste Management Fees with a \$1.00 increase at December 2008 and moving currently planned the second increase from April 2009 to May of 2009.
2. The Town Council discussed the disposition of the house at 3315 Ridge Road, Highland, regarding what to do for the interim. The discussion included that no steps be taken to demolish the property. It was noted that the Town should be seeking as an interim measure to ready the house for rental. The discussion included taking steps to cause it to be insured and to contact FEMA about making it available for temporary housing.
3. The Town Council discussed the rate intervenor with Schererville and Munster regarding the general rate case for electrically services filed by NIPSCO with the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission. The Town Council indicated its interest in participating in the rate case as part of the municipal group, sharing costs with the Schererville and Munster on the matter. It was noted that London Witte Group, P.C. was engaged to develop the rate case and review the filing by NIPSCO. It was noted that this would require action at its forthcoming meeting.
4. The Town Council discussed some of the current vacancies on the several boards and commissions of the Town. It was noted that some were appointments vested with the Town Council President and some with the Town Council President. It was noted that it is customary to provide a letter to all current appointments whose term is ending about their interest in being reappointed or not. The Clerk-Treasurer was instructed not to send such letters until further notice.
5. The Town Council discussed the enrolled list of matters for the Agenda of the Town Council meeting for Monday, October 27, 2008. The discussion included an extended colloquy regarding the introduced Ordinance No. 1406 which if adopted would prohibit alcohol sales and consumption in all public buildings and public ways. It was noted that Langel's Restaurant, based upon a previously granted license to encroach, would be exempted from the provisions of the ordinance. The discussion included whether or not the Chamber of Commerce should be added as an additional exempted party to permit it to continue to have a beer tent for its annual Zest Fest. The beer tent is placed on Highway Avenue, a public way, which would be prohibited if the ordinance was adopted.
6. With leave from the Town Council, Mr. Vern Sieb, of Sieb Sales, 10001 Express Drive, Highland, who offered that he experienced flooding in the Industrial Park area of Highland. Mr. Sieb inquired about the possibility of establishing a committee without pay to focus on the cause of flooding in the Park. An extended colloquy ensued between and among Mr. Sieb and the members of the Town Council about ways and means of dealing with the recent flooding, the sufficiency of the Board of Sanitary Commissioners efforts in moving this

matter forward, the merit of the Town Council to attend the Board of Sanitary Commissioners' meeting of Tuesday, October 21, to discuss moving forward on the matter of the repair of the storm and sanitary system. The discussion included the possibility of appointing a single party to be responsible for the flood problem alone perhaps to be accountable to the Town Council.

7. The Town Council discussed the need to adopt a new capital plan and that the current plan will soon expire. It was noted that department heads would be required to participate in assisting with the development of the new plan.
8. The Town Council discussed the possibility of adopting a spending constraint rule for all departments, to be effective November 1, that any discretionary spending be approved by the department liaison before it be permitted.

There were no further discussions or any further matters to come before the Town Council. The regular study session of the Twenty-Sixth Highland Town Council of **Monday, October 20, 2008** was adjourned at 8:40 o'clock p.m.

Michael W. Griffin, IAMC/MMC/CPFA
Clerk-Treasurer